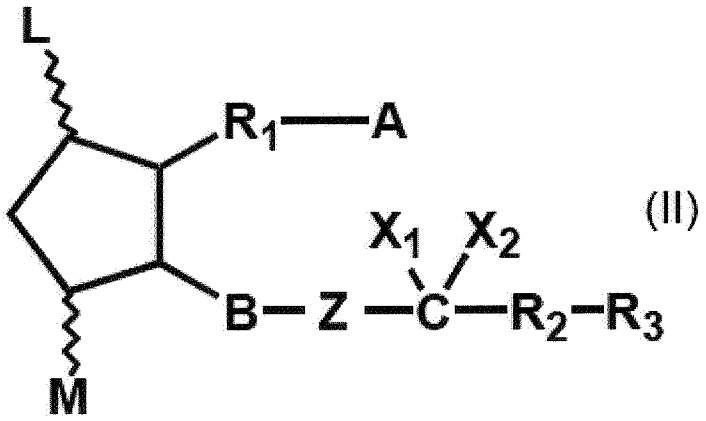
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for treating obesity in a mammalian subject, which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of reduction of body weight an effective amount of a ~~15-keto-16-mono-or-dihalogen prostaglandin E_1~~ compound as shown by the following Formula (II) to reduce body weight:



(II)

wherein L is oxo and M is hydrogen or hydroxy, and the five-membered ring may have one or more double bonds;

A is ~~CH_3, or CH_2OH, $COCH_2OH$,~~ -COOH or a salt, ~~ether,~~ ester or amide thereof;

B is single bond, $-CH_2-CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, -C≡C-, $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-C\equiv C-CH_2-$ or $-CH_2-C\equiv C-$;

Z is

X_1 and X_2 are hydrogen, lower alkyl, or halogen, provided that at least one of X_1 and X_2 is halogen;

R_1 is a saturated or unsaturated bivalent lower or medium aliphatic hydrocarbon residue, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, aryl selected from the group consisting of phenyl, tolyl and xylyl which is unsubstituted or substituted ~~or heterocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, furazanyl, pyranyl, pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidyl, pyrazinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, imidazolidinyl, 2-pyrazolinyl, pyrazolidinyl, piperidino, piperazinyl, morpholino, indolyl, benzothienyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, purinyl, quinazolinyl, carbazolyl, acridinyl, phenanthridinyl, benzimidazolyl, benzimidazolinyl, benzothiazolyl and phenothiazinyl which is unsubstituted or substituted~~, and at least one of carbon atom in the aliphatic hydrocarbon is optionally substituted by oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur;

R_2 is a single bond or lower alkylene; and

R_3 is lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkanoyloxy, cyclo(lower)alkyl, cyclo(lower)alkyloxy, aryl, aryloxy~~, heterocyclic group or heterocyclic-oxy group~~;

wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation, or arrest of progression of obesity.

2. (canceled).

3. (canceled).

4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein ~~said 15-keto-16-mono or dihalogen prostaglandin E_1 compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16-mono or dihalogen prostaglandin E_1 compound~~ B is -CH_2-CH_2-.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein ~~said 15-keto-16-mono or dihalogen prostaglandin E_1 compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16-mono or difluoro-prostaglandin E_1 compound~~ B is -CH_2-CH_2- and at least one of X_1 and X_2 is fluorine.

8. (canceled).

9. (canceled).

10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended): The method as described in Claim 1, wherein B is -CH_2-CH_2-, X_1 and X_2 are fluorine, R_2 is single bond and R_3 is -CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-CH_3 or -CH_2-$CH(CH_3)$-CH_2-CH_3 ~~said 15-keto-16-mono or dihalogen prostaglandin E_1 compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-prostaglandin E_1 compound or 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-18-methyl-prostaglandin E_1 compound~~.

12. (original): The method as described in Claim 1, which comprises systemic administration 1-4 times per day or continuous administration at the amount of 0.01-100 μg/kg per day.

13. (original): The method as described in Claim 12, wherein the administration is at the amount of 0.1-10 μg/kg per day.

14. (canceled).

15. (canceled).

16. (canceled).

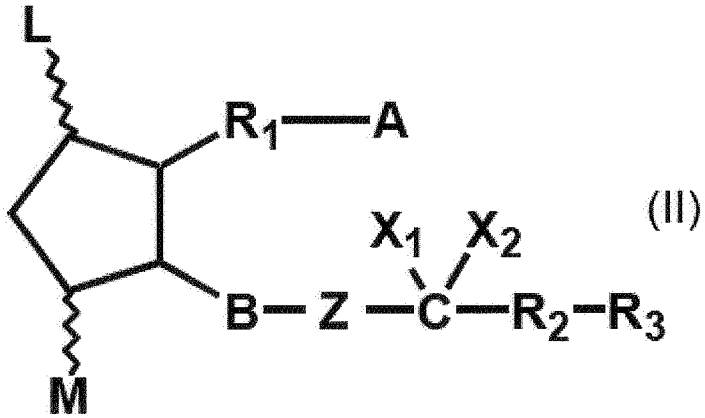
17. (canceled).

18. (canceled).

19. (canceled).

20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended): A method for reducing body weight in a mammalian subject which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of treatment for obesity an effective amount of a ~~15-keto-16-mono or dihalogen prostaglandin E_1~~ compound as shown by the following Formula (II) ~~to reduce body weight~~:



(II)

wherein L is oxo and M is hydrogen or hydroxy, and the five-membered ring may have one or more double bonds;

A is ~~$-CH_3$, or $-CH_2OH$, $-COCH_2OH$,~~ -COOH or a salt, ~~ether,~~ ester or amide thereof;

B is single bond, $-CH_2-CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, -C≡C-, $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-C\equiv C-CH_2-$ or $-CH_2-C\equiv C-$;

Z is

;

X_1 and X_2 are hydrogen, lower alkyl, or halogen, provided that at least one of X_1 and X_2 is halogen;

R_1 is a saturated or unsaturated bivalent lower or medium aliphatic hydrocarbon residue, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, aryl selected from the group consisting of phenyl, tolyl and xylyl which is unsubstituted or substituted ~~or heterocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, furazanyl, pyranyl, pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidyl, pyrazinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidinyl, 2-imidazolinyl, imidazolidinyl, 2-pyrazolinyl, pyrazolidinyl, piperidino, piperazinyl, morpholino, indolyl, benzothienyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, purinyl, quinazolinyl, carbazolyl, acridinyl, phenanthridinyl, benzimidazolyl, benzimidazolinyl, benzothiazolyl and phenothiazinyl which is unsubstituted or substituted~~, and at least one of carbon atom in the aliphatic hydrocarbon is optionally substituted by oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur;

R_2 is a single bond or lower alkylene; and

R_3 is lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkanoyloxy, cyclo(lower)alkyl, cyclo(lower)alkyloxy, aryl, aryloxy ~~, heterocyclic group or heterocyclic-oxy group~~;

wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation, or arrest of progression of obesity.

22. (canceled).

23. (canceled).

24. (canceled).

25. (currently amended): A method for treating obesity in a mammalian subject, which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of reduction of body weight an effective amount of a compound which is 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro PGE_1 or a salt, ~~ether,~~ ester or amide thereof or 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-18-methyl PGE_1 or a salt, ester or amide thereof to reduce body weight, wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation, or arrest of progression of obesity.

26. (currently amended): ~~The~~A method ~~according to Claim 25, wherein the compound is 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro PGE_1~~ for treating obesity in a mammalian subject, which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of reduction of body weight an effective amount of 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro PGE_1 to reduce body weight, wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation or arrest of progression of obesity.

27. (new): A method for reducing body weight in a mammalian subject, which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of treatment for obesity an effective amount of 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro PGE_1, wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation or arrest of progression of obesity.

28. (new): A method for treating obesity in a mammalian subject, which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of reduction of body weight an effective amount of 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-18-methyl PGE_1 to reduce body weight, wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation or arrest of progression of obesity.

29. (new): A method for reducing body weight in a mammalian subject, which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of treatment for obesity an effective amount of 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-18-methyl PGE_1, wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation or arrest of progression of obesity.

30. (new): A method for reducing body weight in a mammalian subject which comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need of treatment for obesity an effective amount of 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro PGE_1 or a salt, ester or amide thereof or 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-18-methyl PGE_1 or a salt, ester or amide thereof, wherein said treating comprises care, relief, attenuation or arrest of progression of obesity.